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Letter dated 10 August 2007 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

With reference to Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005) and 1722 (2006), I have the honour to convey the attached letter from the Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union and High Representative of the Union for the Common Foreign and Security Policy, dated 20 July 2007 (see annex), transmitting the tenth report on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, covering the period from 1 March to 31 May 2007.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ban** Ki-moon

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Annex

Letter dated 20 July 2007 from the Secretary-General and High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]

In accordance with the provisions of Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005) and 1722 (2006), I attach the tenth three-monthly report on the activities of the European Union military operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR) (see enclosure). The report covers the period from 1 March to 31 May 2007. I would be grateful if you would transmit the attached report to the President of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Javier **Solana**

Enclosure

Report of the Secretary-General and High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina

I. Introduction

1. The present report covers the period 1 March 2007 to 31 May 2007.

2. The Security Council, in its resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005) and 1722 (2006), requested that Member States, acting through or in cooperation with the European Union, report to the Council on the activity of the European Union military mission (EUFOR) through the appropriate channels and at least at three-monthly intervals. This document is the tenth such report to the Council.

II. Political background

3. During the reporting period, the general security situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina remained stable. However, the political situation deteriorated, mainly as a result of the International Court of Justice ruling of 26 February in the case of Bosnia and Herzegovina against Serbia. The verdict sparked strong reactions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including calls for a special status for Srebrenica outside the Republika Srpska.

4. Despite facilitation efforts by the Special Representative of the European Union and a visit by European Union Enlargement Commissioner Olli Rehn in mid-March, the political parties were unable to reach agreement on police reform, thereby preventing the initialling of the Stabilization and Association Agreement with the European Union. The text of the Stabilization and Association Agreement was finalized at the end of 2006 and can be initialled as soon as the political preconditions are met.

5. There was no concrete progress on constitutional reform during the reporting period. Constitutional reform was frequently discussed by political leaders in combination with other reform issues but no agreement was reached.

III. EUFOR activities

6. On 27 February 2007, the European Union decided to transform EUFOR. EUFOR attained full operational capability of the new structure on 28 April. The new structure is based on a headquarters in Sarajevo, a situational awareness matrix (including liaison and observation teams spread throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina) and a manoeuvre element, which can be reinforced, if necessary, by over-the-horizon reserves. EUFOR's reconfigured force numbers some 2,500 troops, from 24 member States of the European Union and 9 third countries.[a]

[a] EUFOR currently comprises troops from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and Albania, Argentina, Chile, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey. Cyprus and Malta contribute to the common costs of the operation.

7. EUFOR continues to conduct operations in line with its mandate to provide deterrence, to ensure continued compliance with the General Framework Agreement for Peace, annexes 1A and 2, and to contribute to a safe and secure environment.

8. On 7 May, EUFOR, upon request from the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, conducted an operation against the home of Vojislav Topalovic, a suspected member of the Karadžić support network. His home was raided and a number of items were seized for further analysis and investigation. The operation was supported by the State Intelligence Protection Agency (SIPA), the State-level Bosnian police agency.

9. On 31 May, the Republika Srpska police arrested Zdravko Tolimir, a war crime suspect indicted by the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. At the request of the Tribunal, EUFOR transported Tolimir from Banja Luka to Sarajevo, and provided a security escort and medical support.

IV. Outlook

10. Having completed its reconfiguration, EUFOR continues to fulfil its mandate in accordance with the General Framework Agreement for Peace.